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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

RANDALL J. STEPHENS

Serial No. 09/727,060 (TI-28757)

Filed November 30, 2000

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING AMPLIFIER EFFICIENCY

Art Unit 2817

Examiner Patricia T. Nguyen

Customer No. 23494

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
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Jay M. Cantor, Reg. No. 19,906

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Responsive to the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, while applicant agrees with the reasons stated as to claim 1, it is noted that claim 13 relates to a method and requires the steps of providing an input stage amplifier an output stage and an output load coupled to the output stage, the output stage comprising at least two switching elements, measuring a sensed value proportional to a current flowing from the an input stage amplifier to the an output load ; and producing a tri-state output of the output stage of the

amplifier using a control circuit responsive to the sensed value. These steps are also not taught or suggested by the cited prior art.

Also, the feature of producing a tri-state output by activating a first switching element of the output stage until the current reaches a second threshold after exceeding a first threshold, activating a second switching element of the output stage until the current reaches a fourth threshold after exceeding a third threshold and deactivating the first switching element until the current exceeds the first threshold and deactivating the second switching element until the current exceeds the third threshold is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art.

Respectfully submitted,



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